

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Small Business:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 25, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Last week I was appointed to the Committee on Government Reform. As a result of this appointment, I hereby resign as a member of the Committee on Small Business.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM DAVID M. DELQUADRO, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND INFORMATION DIVISION, CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from David M. Delquadro, Assistant Director, Administration and Information Division, Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, March 30, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House, that I received a subpoena for documents and testimony issued by the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined to comply with the subpoena to the extent that it is consistent with Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

DAVID M. DELQUADRO,
Assistant Director, Administration
and Information Division.

CHINESE ESPIONAGE JEOPARDIZES SECURITY OF AMERICA AND ITS CITIZENS

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, the security of America and its citizens has been seriously jeopardized because of the nuclear weapons and missile transfer of technology to China. The American people deserve to know just how our Nation's goose has been cooked.

Newsweek recently reported that our top nuclear weapons expert practically fainted when briefed by CIA analysts on the preliminary damage assessment from Chinese espionage.

Additionally, I think the American people will also feel faint when they learn that the investigating officials believe that the Chinese spying, even

into our most serious secret weapons programs, is described as almost total.

Mr. Speaker, nuclear warhead technology might be hard for most to conceive, but the fact that China could conceivably have the power to kill as many as seven million Americans with one missile is something that I think everyone can visualize.

This Chinese espionage has gone on far too long. I urge the Security Council to release the Cox report because this administration needs to stand up and take responsibility for release of this Top Secret technology, and the American people deserve to fully know what kind of mess we are actually in.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back any secrets we may have.

KOSOVO IS ONE BIG WAR CRIME

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, rape, murder, torture. Kosovo is one big war crime. I say it is time to indict Slobodan Milosevic for his war crimes. I say it is time to arm the opposition forces in Kosovo so they can defend themselves. I say it is time for Europe, yes, Europe, to send in ground troops to help.

And finally, Mr. Speaker, Milosevic has lost all moral and legal authority to rule Kosovo. It is time to support and recognize independence for Kosovo.

Members of Congress, we can pay now or Congress and the world can pay much, much more later.

I yield back all of the crimes of Slobodan Milosevic.

MICROCREDIT LENDING

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about a wonderful program which is transforming the lives of millions of poor families around the world. I am referring to microcredit lending.

Microcredit involves giving small, low-interest, start-up loans to poor but hard-working, aspiring entrepreneurs so that they can start their thriving small businesses known as microenterprises. It is a program which has demonstrated the potential to help the poorest family emerge from poverty and, by extension, to help create a more inclusive global economy. Results in Miami under the leadership of Gail Newman, Kathleen Gordon, and many other volunteers has helped dozens become entrepreneurs.

Microcredit works locally and it can work globally, as well. It is not a hand-out. It is an opportunity, an investment, an exercise in responsibility and accountability. In developing countries, the rate of repayment to these established programs range from 95 to 99 percent.

Foreign assistance used under the microcredit program is loaned and paid back with interest and is recycled and used for new loans, thus reaching an even greater percentage of the world's poor.

Microcredit is empowerment. It is a tool which builds upon the human spirit. It is the U.S. helping others to help themselves. Microcredit is action in support of our humanitarian instincts and objectives.

I support this program, and when the bill comes to the floor, H.R. 1143, I ask that my colleagues give their strong support. I know that results in Miami works, and it works internationally, as well.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules but not before 6:30 p.m. today.

OTAY MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS ACT OF 1999

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 15) to designate a portion of the Otay Mountain region of California as wilderness.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 15

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Otay Mountain Wilderness Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds and declares the following:

(1) The public lands within the Otay Mountain region of California are one of the last remaining pristine locations in western San Diego County, California.

(2) This rugged mountain adjacent to the United States-Mexico border is internationally known for its diversity of unique and sensitive plants.

(3) This area plays a critical role in San Diego's multi-species conservation plan, a national model made for maintaining biodiversity.

(4) Due to its proximity to the international border, this area is the focus of important law enforcement and border interdiction efforts necessary to curtail illegal immigration and protect the area's wilderness values.

(5) The illegal immigration traffic, combined with the rugged topography, also presents unique fire management challenges for protecting lives and resources.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION.

In furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), certain